Brentwood, Tennessee

# Citizen's S Upoate News You Need to Know About Your City Spring 2017

Brentwood, TN 37027 Residential Customer \*\*\*\*ECBWSEDDW

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## **City Manager** Kirk Bednar says...

I have worked in local government for almost 28 years. In that time, I have worked in large cities like Fort Worth, TX, been a consultant to very small cities like Petersburg, TN, and for the last seventeen years I have been blessed to work in Brentwood. I use the term "blessed" very intentionally. In talking with my peers across the state and across the country, it doesn't take long to realize how fortunate I am to work for the City of Brentwood.

When I am asked what makes Brentwood unique when it comes to city management, I often will refer to Brentwood as being a very stable community. I know the word "stable" isn't very exciting and doesn't necessarily paint a vibrant picture of a community that boasts a high quality of life in the midst of a fast growing region. However, for a city manager, stability is much longed for!

For a city manager, a "stable" community means one that has, to a large extent, a uniform vision for what it wants to be. We recently adopted the Brentwood 2030 long range plan, which was an update to the

Brentwood 2020 Plan which itself was an update to the Brentwood 2000 plan. Not surprisingly, throughout these multiple long range planning efforts, the underlying goals, objectives, and vision for this community have not changed much since its incorporation nearly 50 years ago.

For residents, a "stable" community means one that provides consistent, high quality services at a reasonable price through the property tax system. It means providing you and your family a safe community with numerous parks and other recreational opportunities, a nationally recognized library that keeps up with new technology, and a consistent approach to land use and development.

Being a "stable" community doesn't mean there will never be changes. We live in a fast growing county that is part of an even faster growing region. What happens in the communities around us will have some influence on Brentwood. However, even when we have debates about an issue in this community, whether it is related to land use, schools, etc., we are usually debating what is the best way to make something that is already great even better. I know from experience that the vast majority of communities in this country would love



to have the problems that we have in Brentwood.

I am not naïve enough to think that Brentwood is some sort of magical Utopia. We certainly have our challenges looking ahead, including traffic congestion and other growth pressures, as well as changing dynamics at the state and federal government levels that will affect our revenue sources. However, as a "stable" community, Brentwood is well positioned to meet these challenges.



#### Learning for Brentwood students goes old school

You may have driven by the two-story brick house along Moores Carole Crigger, Historic Commission member and community Lane and wondered what takes place there. The Boiling Spring volunteer, has been helping coordinate this education program for 12 years and is so excited to teach the children. Crigger said, "It Academy is a restored 1832 one-room schoolhouse located in Primm Historic Park. The park is the site of two National Register really is a neat opportunity for a child to sit in a classroom, built properties: Boiling Spring Academy and a prehistoric Native in 1832, with no distractions and learn like children did back so American Mound Site, 900-1500 (A.D.). many years ago. They just don't get this experience in many places today." Twenty-three educational field trips are scheduled with schools throughout the month of April and May.

This year about 500 second-graders from Crockett, Scales, Edmondson, and Lipscomb Elementary stepped back in time for "A Day in 1845." The Brentwood Historic Commission developed You can visit the Boiling Spring Academy starting in May. Open a classroom program taught by retired teachers which includes houses will be on the third Sunday of the month through October penmanship, arithmetic (using slates and slate pencils), reading from 2-4pm. from the McGuffey Reader, recitation of maxims, history, a spelling bee, and an activity book.



# CITY ELECTION - TUESDAY MAY 2, 2017

#### Live traffic cameras now online: Twenty-one high definition cameras showing traffic and weather



The City of Brentwood's Technology Department recently completed an upgrade of its live traffic cameras. In all, there are now twentyone high definition cameras installed from the north end of the city near Interstate 65 to the southern edge.

Brentwood previously had traffic cameras, but with the upgrade added three additional ones. The cameras are viewable on the City's website by clicking on the camera icon in the middle of the City's homepage. You can bookmark this page on most mobile devices, but please do not use while driving.

This project cost about \$60,000 for the cameras and technology to operate them. Technology Director, John Allman, said, "We were able to do this so efficiently for citizens by creating and executing this project with city staff instead of a contractor. Traffic operations and technology team members installed the cameras over the past few months and will maintain them going forward."



City Commissioners unanimously passed an

ordinance to allow food trucks to conduct business in Brentwood. There are many rules so the Planning Department held two community meetings and have created a dedicated webpage to help (www.brentwoodtn.gov/foodtrucks).

A second companion ordinance modified the technical standards for the commercial, residential, and service institution zoning districts to permit food trucks as a permitted use, with certain restrictions. Have questions or want to get a permit? Email katie.jardieu@brentwoodtn.gov

friends.

#### And the first food truck permit goes to...

March 7th was a big day for Bradley's Curbside Creamery. Brentwood residents Lynne and Bradley Freeman, the mother-son business duo who operate the homemade ice cream business, started their ice cream truck in a trailer in 2009. In 2012, they upgraded to a truck and have dreamed ever since of serving in Brentwood. Now the former computer programmer and her 2008 college graduate son are ready to serve Brentwood



### Brentwood wins distinguished budget award



It is not easy to win an award for 25 years, but the City of Brentwood's Finance Department did it! They received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award presented by the Government Finance Officers Association for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2016 budget. This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting.

The award represents a significant

achievement by the City Finance Department and the City Manager's office, who both put a tremendous amount of work into the preparation of the annual operating budget along with the six-year Capital Improvements Program. You may view the complete budget on the city's website.

Interim Finance Director, Karen Harper, accepted the award on behalf of her team.

Brentwood Mayor Regina Smithson said, "I'm so proud of Karen. I really believe everybody at the City recognizes the great job she has done this year. She has carried quite the load and deserves all the recognition we can give her. The City is very fortunate to have Karen and I am certainly glad Richard Parker is on board now too."

# Brentwood Parks: Who turns the lights off and on?

The City Parks Department uses Musco Lighting Technology to control, monitor, and manage its recreational facility lighting. Smart phone access allows crews to directly control athletic fields as well as enter, edit, and update schedules from anywhere.

This technology is used on fields at Crockett Park, Tower Park, and Granny White Park. As the city upgrades other athletic fields, this technology will be added. This technology not only makes system more efficient by saving money to manually operate the lights, but the amount of electricity is also saved.

#### #employeespotlight Michael Rinehart, Planning and Codes

Michael has been a Brentwood City Code Enforcement Officer since 2004. His twenty years of experience in codes enforcement includes residential, plumbing and mechanical inspections, and certified cross-connection tester. He has also taken the lead in overseeing the city's fence requirements. His achievements have been recognized with the MTCOA Code Official of the Year award in 2015.

In addition, Michael is an active volunteer serving as Vice President of the Cumberland Region Codes Association, and President of the Middle Tennessee Codes Officials Association. He has also served the Tennessee Building Officials Association.

Planning Director Jeff Dobson said, "Despite his volunteer work, Michael manages to keep pace with the additional work placed upon him from the ongoing building growth. He is knowledgeable in the implementation and interpretation of the 2012 International Residential Code, the zoning ordinance and

other codes and ordinances enforced by the Department. He provides excellent customer service to our citizens and the building community."

Officers "Three Pillars of Human Resources" training program. The competency-based initiative provides education and training for human resources staff in the public sector. Through her participation, Chrissy gained deeper understanding and skills in the areas of



#employeespotlight

Chrissy Kirkpatrick,

Human Resources Technician, Chrissy

Kirkpatrick, recently completed the

Tennessee Department of Human Resources

employee development, employment law,

interviewing, ethics and compensation,

Human Resources

Richard Stokes, Executive Director of the Tennessee Chapter: International Public Management Association, presenting Chrissy with her certificate of completion on February 21.



The Planning and Codes Department offers free training sessions on a semi-annual basis. The City of Brentwood is the only jurisdiction in the area that offers these types of sessions to the building community to assist them in better understanding current and upcoming Code requirements. The primary topic of discussion will be on the 2014 National Electrical Code the State Fire Marshal's Office is tentatively intending to adopt on July 1, 2017. The State is currently enforcing the 2008 NEC. There are a number of changes proposed in the 2014 NEC.



# And you thought gas was cheap...

The average selling price of a home in the City of Brentwood is about \$600,000 these days. However, what citizens receive each month and the cost of those services provides an excellent deal. For example, your monthly property tax bill on a \$600k home is \$45. For an accredited, CALEA Gold Standard Police Department, you get protection and a safe city from dedicated officers for only \$9.21 per month. The Brentwood Fire and Rescue Department boasts a staff of 66 members for only \$9.04 a month. Compare those prices to your average electricity or average monthly grocery bill for a family of four and you will see just how efficient Brentwood operates its city departments at the best value for its residents.

Get a more detailed look at the City's budget on our website under finance.

### The City of Brentwood celebrates 48 years in April: The story behind the crest

On March 18, 1974, the Brentwood City Commission adopted an official Coat-of-Arms for the City of Brentwood derived from Brentwood, England's crest. The shield is divided horizontally by a "rayonee" which gives the appearance of flames across the middle for Brentwood England's old name of "Burnt Wood."

The three crowns of the Abbey of St Osyth are incorporated in the shield since the lands of Brentwood were held by the Abbey from Henry II's reign until the Dissolution of the Monasteries.

At the top of the shield is a blackbird with red feet, which is one of the symbols of St. Thomas of Canterbury who was the Patron Saint of the town. On each side of the blackbird are pilgrims' staffs.



The crest above the helmet includes a tower since the name of the late owner of the ancient manor house, Weald Hall, was Tower. Rising above the tower is a stag, as a remembrance of the deer once seen in the parks.

The words on the coat of arms are "Ardens Fide." Ardens meaning "burning" to describe "Burnt Wood" and Fide representing our faith in God, our fellow men, and our future.

06/04/2017 The Answer Band

06/11/2017 Nashville Symphony

06/18/2017 The South Street Players

06/25/2017 The WannaBeatles

07/09/2017 The Celebrity Allstar Band

07/16/2017 **Rubix Groove** 



### Library utilizes new tool for Evidence Based Stock Management

all day, every day. From cataloging books, digitization projects, and 3D printers to helping patrons download eBooks or scan documents, library staff make it their business to keep up with new and emerging technology. One of the most recent hi-tech undertakings involves CollectionHQ, an advanced collection development tool used to help librarians keep the shelves stocked with the most useful materials for our patrons. Collection development is a regular task librarians

Libraries use technology in many ways, perform, which includes selecting new material while simultaneously weeding out old or outdated material to keep the collection fresh and useful. CollectionHQ is easily accessible from the web, and uses Evidence Based Stock Management (EBSM) methodology along with data from our library to help librarians manage the collections more effectively and efficiently. We can't wait to see how much CollectionHQ is going to help us be better at helping you!

#### New online system simplifies job application process



Looking for a job or know someone who is? If so, give the City's new online application system a try! The new software streamlines the job search and application process, with online submission of job applications for prospective employees.

# **8AM-4PM EACH DAY BRENTWOOD SPRING CLEAN-UP**

April 15 & 29 Granny White Park, 610 Granny White Pike

> April 22 Safety Center East 1300 Sunset Road

Acceptable: items too large for regular trash pick-up Unacceptable: liquids, sprays, paints, batteries, tires, or chippings

Ever wondered who

you are talking to

Amanda.Bledsoe@brentwoodtn.gov

Chrissy.Kirkpatrick@brentwoodtn.gov

David.Lincicome@brentwoodtn.gov and

when you call...

**Ravenswood Mansion or** 

Water and Sewer Billing

**Food Truck Questions** 

Main Line at City Hall

Library

Tracy.Todd@brentwoodtn.gov

Katie.Jardieu@brentwoodtn.gov

Margie.Sparks@brentwoodtn.gov

mc.sparks@brentwoodtn.gov

**Cool Springs House** 

**Human Resources** 

Chrissy Kirkpatrick



Katie lardieu



■ ¥ ¶ www.brentwoodtn.gov

# How Brentwood's water department uses GIS Technology

The City's Water Services Department started using GIS in the water services program around 2006.

The first few years were spent developing a digital inventory of assets. Prior to GIS, all information was stored inside long time employees' heads. GIS allowed the city to go from paper to digital. After a few years of collecting data like the number of water pipes in the city, their exact locations, etc. the next step became maintaining those assets. Information updates came next, then around 2012 the city started using cameras to inspect gravity sanitary sewer pipes. The cameras indicate data such as when water pipes were installed or water pressure. So essentially, before you ever dig, you can see what's going on below.

The GIS data is also helpful for new developments. For example with the growth of new neighborhoods in Brentwood, with modeling software, a proposed development can be put into



## 2017 Environmental Stewardship Awards



The City of Brentwood's Environmental Advisory Board recognizes individuals, organizations, schools, and businesses going above and beyond to enhance the environment and promote volunteerism that serves environmental causes. Six Environmental Stewardship Awards were presented to this year's winners at the City's Arbor Day Celebration on April 1st:

The Brentwood Country Club's Rainwater Capture Project channeled runoff into an irrigation pond, making it available for use in watering the grounds of the club and the golf course.

The New Neighbors Garden Club held an environmental reading month to teach environmental awareness to more than 280 second grade students in Brentwood. They also gave the students seed packets to take home and plant.

The local chapter of the Harry Potter Alliance has been involved in water conservation projects, wildfire relief efforts, and a movement to make restaurant to-go containers more environmentally friendly.

along the way.

Doug Anderson, AP Environmental Science teacher at Brentwood High School and the National Association of Biology Teacher's 2016 National Teacher of the Year, was recognized for activities that he and his students have engaged in, including a bird banding project and the adoption of two local creeks.





Amanda Bledsoe

David Lincicome



the model to see if our city can handle the added capacity of a new development. Right now in the Witherspoon development off Crockett Road, inspectors are using GPS devices to locate the water pipes, valves, and even fire hydrants in the new subdivision.

The future of GIS will be asset management, meaning we have software now that allows us to be digital in the field. Crews send and collect work orders digitally. This helps manage budgeting with costs and employee work hours, which in return makes us operate more efficiently and effectively.

So when Water Services Director Chris Milton was asked "Can you predict a water main break too?" he replied, "we are almost there. With all the data collected, we are able to know which pipes are 'high risk' to possibly break or fail soon, based on actual data instead of someone's educated guess about when it may burst."

Dr. Eric Brock, teacher at Ravenwood High School, has walked to and from school each day for the past three years, picking up litter

Girl Scout Troop 1150 encouraged students at Scales Elementary to bring waste-free lunches to cut down on trash. Money raised through cookie sales was used to purchase prizes for participants in the waste-free lunch campaign.



MAY 19th 7:00 pm **CROCKETT PARK** 

#### **Brentwood Police Department deploys TASERs to all certified officers**

The Brentwood Police Department has recently chosen to deploy TASERs to all certified officers. The goal of deploying this new technology is to provide the officer another tool to use, should an individual actively resist an arrest by pulling away, pushing, or fighting with the officer. When utilized, the TASER deploys two darts that are connected to the unit by small wires, and delivers a metered charge of electricity, temporarily immobilizing a violent arrestee. If the subject is taken into custody during the "window of opportunity" the TASER provides, the chance of injury to the officer and subject are greatly reduced.

Since starting the TASER training on 12/28/16, 55 officers have received 8 hours of training in the safe use, handling and deployment of TASER Conducted Electrical Weapons. All TASER certified officers have passed a written test and a proficiency exam. Of the 55 TASER students, 23 volunteered to take a 5-second exposure.

### Citizen's Update

Published semi-annually by the City of Brentwood, 615-371-0060. Comments and suggestions should be directed to Deanna Lambert, Community Relations Director, or by e-mail at deanna.lambert@brentwoodtn.gov. Don't forget - you can always keep up with city news on our city website, Twitter, Facebook and YouTube!

## Brentwood Board of Commissioners

MAYOR Regina **Smithson** 



regina.smithson@brentwoodtn.gov 6011 Wellesley Way 615-377-0115 (home) / 615-371-2200, ext. 2410

**COMMISSIONER** 

Anne Dunn



anne.dunn@brentwoodtn.gov 1613 Covington Drive 615-370-3702 (home) / 615-371-2200, ext. 2420

# **City Phone Numbers**

| Municipal Center  | .615-371-0060 |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Planning/Codes    | 615-371-2204  |
| Water Billing     | 615-661-7061  |
| Water Maintenance | 615-371-0080  |
| Public Works      | .615-371-0080 |
| Service Center    | .615-371-0080 |
|                   |               |

**VICE MAYOR** Jill **Burgin** 



jill.burgin@brentwoodtn.gov 1211 Knox Valley Drive 615-371-2200, ext. 2480

| COMMISSIONER |  |
|--------------|--|
| Mark         |  |
| Gorman       |  |
|              |  |

mark.gorman@brentwoodtn.gov 9732 Turnbridge Court 615-483-6004 (cell) / 615-371-2200, ext. 2460

| Police           | 615-371-0160  |
|------------------|---------------|
| Fire             | 615-371-0170  |
| Wm. Co. Ambulanc | e615-794-2800 |
| Library          | 615-371-0090  |
| Parks            | 615-371-2208  |
| Emergency        | 911           |
|                  |               |

**COMMISSIONER** Betsy S. Crossley



betsy.crossley@brentwoodtn.gov 276 Stratton Court 615-440-9460 (cell) / 615-371-2200, ext. 2770

**COMMISSIONER** Rhea Little, III



rhea.little@brentwoodtn.gov 9703 Onyx Lane 615-371-2200, ext. 2780

**COMMISSIONER** Ken Travis



ken.travis@brentwoodtn.gov 7086 Willowick Drive 615-981-9572 (cell) / 615-371-2200, ext. 2490

